

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claim 1 (Currently amended): A method of diagnosing or monitoring an ~~auto-immune~~ autoimmune or chronic inflammatory disease in a patient, comprising detecting the expression level of a gene in said patient to diagnose or monitor said ~~auto immune or chronic inflammatory disease~~[[s]] in said patient wherein said gene comprises [[a]] the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:739.

Claims 2-29 (Canceled)

Claim 30 (Previously presented): The method of claim 1, wherein said auto immune or chronic inflammatory disease is selected from the group consisting of: Rheumatoid Arthritis, Cholecystitis, Systemic Lupus Erythematosus, Sjogrens Disease, CREST syndrome, Scleroderma, Ankylosing Spondylitis, Crohn's, Ulcerative Colitis, Primary Sclerosing Cholangitis, Appendicitis, Diverticulitis, Primary Biliary Sclerosis, Wegener's Granulomatosis, Polyarteritis nodosa, Whipple's Disease, Psoriasis, Microscopic Polyangiitis, Takayasu's Disease, Kawasaki's Disease, Autoimmune hepatitis, Asthma, Churg-Strauss Disease, Beurger's Disease, Raynaud's Disease, and Cholecystitis.

Claim 31 (Previously presented): The method of claim 1 wherein said disease is Systemic Lupus Erythematosus.

Claim 32 (Previously presented): The method of claim 1 wherein said disease is Rheumatoid Arthritis.

Claim 33 (Previously presented): The method of claim 1 wherein said expression level is detected by measuring the RNA level expressed by said gene.

Claim 34 (Previously presented): The method of claim 33, further including isolating RNA from said patient prior to detecting said RNA level expressed by said gene.

Claim 35 (Previously presented): The method of claim 34 wherein said RNA level is detected by PCR.

Claim 36 (Previously presented): The method of claim 34 wherein said RNA level is detected by hybridization.

Claim 37 (Previously presented): The method of claim 34 wherein said RNA level is detected by hybridization to an oligonucleotide.

Claim 38 (Previously presented): The method of claim 37 wherein said oligonucleotide comprises DNA, RNA, cDNA, PNA, genomic DNA, or synthetic oligonucleotides.

Claim 39 (Previously presented): The method of claim 1, wherein said expression level detected is expression level in the patient's bodily fluid.

Claim 40 (Previously presented): The method of claim 39, wherein said bodily fluid is peripheral blood.